THE HALL MARKS
ON
GOLD & SILVER ARTICLES

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BY

D. T. W.

1925
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An explanation of the Hall Marks placed upon Gold and Silver Articles, to guarantee the Standard, and struck by Authority of Act of Parliament, by the various Companies of Goldsmiths and Guardians of the Standard of Wrought Plate, in England, Scotland and Ireland, with representations of the Hall Marks as impressed, together with notes on the guarantee marks of several Foreign Countries.

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

In compiling this work, the aim of the writer has been to place at the disposal of the public and collectors generally, in a handy and compact form, reliable information concerning Hall Marks on Gold and Silver Articles, together with other useful and interesting data. The Guarantee Marks of Foreign Countries, which are dealt with, are in some instances those in use before 1914, since when they may have been altered.

The author desires to take this opportunity of expressing his thanks and indebtedness to the Wardens, and especially the Clerk, W. T. Prideaux, Esq., of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, and the Wardens and Assay Masters of the other Assay Offices in Great Britain and Ireland, for allowing him to collect much of the information, and for their valuable assistance, also to W. W. Brook, Esq., of Edinburgh, for permission to reproduce the early date letters of the Edinburgh Assay Office, collected with so much care by his late father, J. S. Brook, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., and appearing in *Old Scottish Communion Plate*, by the Rev. Thomas Burns, F.R.S.E., F.S.A. Scot. To the Egyptian Government Assay Office, the Ministry of Finance, Holland, The Bureau Fédéral des Matières d'or et d'argent, Switzerland, the Ministry of Public Works, Czecho-Slovakia, Les Editeurs, "Azur," Annuaire de la Bijouterie, 24 Boulevard de la Sebas-

topol, Paris, he gratefully acknowledges permission to reproduce from their drawings the Marks used by the respective countries, and to the Controller, H.M. Stationery Office, for the Marks authorised to be stamped on Imported Articles and appearing in the *London Gazette*.

The original spelling has been adhered to when copying from old documents. The word "Allay" has now become "Alloy." There are several other similar differences.

D. T. W.

October, 1924.

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LONDON

THE HALL MARKS
ON GOLD AND SILVER ARTICLES

THE WARDENS AND COMMONALTY OF THE MYSTERY OF GOLDSMITHS OF THE CITY OF LONDON

ASSAY OFFICE, GOLDSMITHS' HALL, LONDON

A.D. 1327

THE first Charter to the Goldsmiths' Company, in the City of London, bears date the 30th March, 1327, 1st Edward III., and recites:

That the Goldsmiths of our City of London, by their Petition exhibited to us and our Council, in our Parliament holden at Westminster after the Feast of the Purification of our Lady last past, have shewn (inter alia) That the cutlers cover Tin with Silver so subtilly, and with such Sleight, that the same cannot be discerned and severed from the Tin, and by that Means they sell the Tin so covered for fine Silver, to the great Damage and Deceit of Us, and our People. Whereupon the said Goldsmiths have petitioned Us, that We would be pleased to apply convenient Remedy therein: And We being willing to prevent the said Evil, do, by and with the Assent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons of our Realm, for the common profit of Us and our People, Will and Grant, for Us and our Heirs (inter alia), That those of the said Trade may by virtue of these Presents elect honest, lawful and sufficient Men, best skilled in the said Trade, to enquire

of the Matters aforesaid, and that they so chosen may, upon due Consideration of the said Craft, reform what Defects they shall find therein, and thereupon inflict due Punishment upon the Offenders, and that by the Help and Assistance of the Mayor and Sheriffs, if Occasion be, And that in all trading Cities and Towns in England where Goldsmiths reside, the same Ordinance be observed as in London, and that one or two of every such City or Town, for the rest of that Trade, shall come to London to be ascertained of their Touch of Gold, and there to have a stamp, of a Puncheon of a Leopard's Head, marked upon their work, as of ancient Time it has been ordained.

London

SILVER

1. STANDARD OR STERLING

Sterling Allay, in use before A.D. 1300

The marks used for stamping Standard or Sterling Silver Plate. *Alloy* 11 ozs. 2 dwts. of Fine Silver in every lb. Troy, the decimal equivalent is 925, the number of parts of Fine Silver in every 1000—the balance being base metal.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Stat. 12 *Geo. II. Cap.* 26 (*The Plate* (*Offences*) *Act*, 1738).

Lion passant, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM (except Watch Cases)

Stat. 30 *and* 31 *Vic. Cap.* 82 (*The Customs Amendment Act*, 1867) *and* 39 *and* 40 *Vic. Cap.* 35, *Sec.* 2 (*The Customs Tariff Act*, 1876). *From* 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

Stat. 4 *Edward* 7, *Cap.* 6 (*The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act* 1904). *Order in Council dated* 24*th October*, 1904. *From October* 1904 *to May* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, ·925, variable date letter.

Order in Council dated 11*th May*, 1906. *From May* 1906 *to the present time.* See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, ·925, variable date letter.

FOREIGN MADE WATCH CASES

Stat. 50 *and* 51 *Vic. Cap.* 28 (*The Merchandise Marks Act*, 1887) *and Order in Council dated* 28*th November*, 1887.
From December 1887 *to May* 1907. See pages 85, 86.

NOTE.—Very few foreign made Watch Cases were marked during this period.

Order in Council dated 7*th May*, 1907.
From May 1907 *to the present time.* See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, ·925, variable date letter.

2. NEW STERLING OR BRITANNIA SILVER

This Standard authorised by

Stat. 8 *and* 9 *Will. III. Cap.* 8, *Sec.* 1, A.D. 1696.

Exclusively used, no person being allowed to work any Silver Plate less in fineness, until A.D. 1720, when the Old Standard was restored, Stat. 6 Geo. I. Cap. 11, but the New Sterling or Britannia was not abolished, and both Standards are legal at the present time.

The marks used for stamping New Sterling or Britannia Silver. *Alloy* 11 ozs. 10 dwts. of Fine Silver in every lb. Troy, the decimal equivalent is 958, the number of parts of Fine Silver in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Stat. 8 *and* 9 *Will. III. Cap.* 8 (1696).
Stat. 12 *Geo. II. Cap.* 26 (*The Plate* (*Offences*) *Act*, 1738).

Lion's Head erased, figure of Britannia, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, *and the Customs Tariff Act*, 1876.

From 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter " F " on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904, *and Order in Council, dated 24th October*, 1904.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, ·9584, variable date letter.

Order in Council dated 11th May, 1906.

From 1906 *to the present time.* See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, ·9584, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

For both Standards of Silver.

From 1784 *to* 1890. *Stat.* 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53. *Sess.* 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

GOLD

22 CARAT GOLD

The "Touch of Paris," in use before A.D. 1300.

The marks used for stamping 22 Carat Gold Plate. *Alloy* 22 parts of Fine Gold in 24, the decimal equivalent is 916, the number of parts of Fine Gold in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Prior to 1844, the same marks as for Silver were used.

Stat. 12 *Geo. II. Cap.* 26 (*The Plate (Offences) Act*, 1738).

Lion passant, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

Stat. 7 *and* 8 *Vic. Cap.* 22 (*The Gold and Silver Wares Act*, 1844).

From 1844 *to present time.*

Crown, 22, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD, AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, *and the Customs Tariff Act*, 1876.

From 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

Stat. 50 *and* 51 *Vic. Cap.* 28 (*The Merchandise Marks Act*, 1887), *and Order in Council dated* 28*th November*, 1887.

From 1887 to 1907. See pages 85, 86.

Applies only to Watch Cases imported from foreign parts.

NOTE.—Very few, if any, foreign made Watch Cases were Hall Marked during this period.

Stat. 4 *Edw. VII. Cap.* 6 (*The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act*, 1904), *and Order in Council dated* 24*th October*, 1904.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, 22·916, variable date letter.

NOTE.—The Carat and the decimal equivalent in figures are struck upon this Plate.

These marks were cancelled in 1906, and the following substituted; also from May 1907 to the present time the marks for imported Watch Cases have been the same as for other imported Plate.

Order in Council dated 11*th May*, 1906, *and* (*for Watch Cases*) *Order in Council dated* 7*th May*, 1907.

From 1906 *to present time*. See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, 22·916, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890. *Stat.* 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

18 CARAT GOLD

This Standard authorised by

38 *Geo. III. Cap.* 69 (*The Gold Plate* (*Standard*) *Act*, 1798).

The marks used for stamping 18 Carat Gold Plate. *Alloy*

18 parts of Fine Gold in 24, the decimal equivalent is 750, the number of parts of Fine Gold in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Crown, 18, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, *and the Customs Tariff Act*, 1876.

From 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

The Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 28th November*, 1887.

From 1887 *to* 1907. See pages 85, 86.

Applies only to Watch Cases imported from foreign parts.

NOTE.—Very few foreign made Watch Cases were Hall Marked during this period.

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904, *and Order in Council dated 24th October*, 1904.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, 18·75, variable date letter.

NOTE.—The Carat and the decimal equivalent in figures are struck upon this Plate.

These marks were cancelled in 1906, and the following substituted; also from May 1907 to the present time the marks for imported Watch Cases have been the same as for other imported Plate.

Order in Council dated 11th May, 1906, *and* (*for Watch Cases*) *Order in Council dated 7th May*, 1907.

From 1906 *to present time.* See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, 18·75, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890. *Stat.* 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

15 CARAT GOLD

This Standard authorised by

17 *and* 18 *Vic. Cap.* 96 (*The Gold and Silver Wares Act*, 1854), *and Order in Council dated* 11*th December*, 1854.

The marks used for stamping 15 Carat Gold Plate. *Alloy* 15 parts of Fine Gold in 24, the decimal equivalent is 625, the number of parts of Fine Gold in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

NOTE.—The Carat and the decimal equivalent in figures are struck upon this Plate, both of English and Foreign manufacture.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

15·625, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, *and the Customs Tariff Act*, 1876.

From 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

The Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 28th November*, 1887.
From 1887 *to* 1907. See pages 85, 86.

Applies only to Watch Cases imported from foreign parts.

NOTE.—Very few, if any, foreign made Watch Cases were Hall Marked during this period.

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904, *and Order in Council dated 24th October*, 1904.
From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, 15·625, variable date letter.

These marks were cancelled in 1906, and the following substituted; also from May 1907 to the present time the marks for imported Watch Cases have been the same as for other imported Plate.

Order in Council dated 11th May, 1906, *and* (*for Watch Cases*) *Order in Council dated 7th May*, 1907.
From 1906 *to present time*. See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, 15·625, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890. *Stat.* 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

12 CARAT GOLD

This Standard authorised by

17 *and* 18 *Vic. Cap.* 96 (*The Gold and Silver Wares Act*, 1854), *and Order in Council dated 11th December*, 1854.

The marks used for stamping 12 Carat Gold Plate. *Alloy*

12 parts of Fine Gold in 24, the decimal equivalent is 500, the number of parts of Fine Gold in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

NOTE.—The Carat and the decimal equivalent in figures are struck upon this Plate, both of English and Foreign manufacture.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

12·5, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, *and the Customs Tariff Act*, 1876.

From 1867 *to* 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

The Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 28th November*, 1887.

From 1887 *to* 1907. See pages 85, 86.

Applies only to Watch Cases imported from foreign parts.

NOTE.—Very few, if any, foreign made Watch Cases were Hall Marked during this period.

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904, *and Order in Council dated 24th October*, 1904.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, 12·5, variable date letter.

These marks were cancelled in 1906, and the following substituted; also from May 1907 to the present time the marks for imported Watch Cases have been the same as for other imported Plate.

Order in Council dated 11th May, 1906, and (for Watch Cases) Order in Council dated 7th May, 1907.

From 1906 to present time. See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, 12·5, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 to 1890. Stat. 24 Geo. III. Cap. 53, Sess. 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

9 CARAT GOLD

This Standard authorised by

17 and 18 Vic. Cap. 96 (The Gold and Silver Wares Act, 1854), and Order in Council dated 11th December, 1854.

The marks used for stamping 9 Carat Gold Plate. *Alloy* 9 parts of Fine Gold in 24, the decimal equivalent is 375, the number of parts of Fine Gold in every 1000, the balance being base metal.

NOTE.—The Carat and the decimal equivalent in figures are struck upon this Plate, both of English and Foreign manufacture.

PLATE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

9·375, Leopard's Head, variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867, and the Customs Tariff Act, 1876.

From 1867 to 1904.

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

The Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 28th November*, 1887.
From 1887 *to* 1907. See pages 85, 86.

Applies only to Watch Cases imported from foreign parts.

NOTE.—Very few, if any, foreign made Watch Cases were Hall Marked during this period.

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904; *and Order in Council dated 24th October*, 1904.
From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

Phoebus, 9·375, variable date letter.

These marks were cancelled in 1906, and the following substituted; also from May 1907 to the present time the marks for imported Watch Cases have been the same as for other imported Plate.

Order in Council dated 11th May, 1906, *and* (*for Watch Cases*) *Order in Council dated 7th May*, 1907.
From 1906 *to present time.* See pages 89, 90.

Sign of the Constellation Leo, 9·375, variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890. *Stat.* 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

THE LEOPARD'S HEAD

Denotes that the Gold or Silver Plate was assayed and Hall Marked at the Goldsmiths' Hall, in the City of London. Until 1822 the head was always "crowned," but the crown was then removed, and it has since been used without.

Stat. 28 *Edw. I. Stat.* 3, *Cap.* 20, A.D. 1300, *ordains:*

That no Goldsmith of England, nor none otherwhere within the King's Dominion, shall make or cause to be made, any Vessel, Jewel, or other Thing of Gold or Silver, except it be of good and true Allay, that is to say, Gold not worse than the Touch of Paris, and Silver of the Sterling Allay or better; and that none work worse Silver than Money—And that no Vessel of Silver depart out of the Hands of the Workers, until it be Assayed by the Wardens of the Craft, and marked with the Leopard's Head. And that the Wardens of the Craft shall go from Shop to Shop among the Goldsmiths to assay if their Gold be of the same Touch, and if they find any other, the Gold shall be forfeit to the King. And that all good Towns of England, where any Goldsmith dwell, shall be ordered according to this Statute, as they of London be; and that one (for the rest) shall come from every good Town to London to be ascertained of their Touch. And if any Goldsmith be attainted that he hath done otherwise, he shall be punished by Imprisonment and by Ransom at the King's Pleasure.

THE LION PASSANT

The King's Mark for Gold of the Touch of Paris, and Sterling Silver until 1844, but made before; used exclusively on Silver since 1844.

There is no record of any "Lion" upon Plate made before 1543, or thereabouts, and the question arises, whether the "King's Mark" referred to in Stat. 37 Edward III. Cap. 7 (see under Maker's Mark) can have been the Lion. It is sometimes thought that the Leo-

pard's Head was derived from the animal in the Royal Arms, which might have been either "Lion" or "Leopard," and that the mediæval heralds called the profile a Lion and the full face a Leopard. It might therefore be the case that the King's Mark referred to in 1363 was the Leopard's Head. If the Lion had been ordered by Statute in 1363, it is almost certain that it would have been found on Plate made before 1543, as there is a good deal of well-known Plate in existence made prior to this date.

THE MAKER'S MARK

Was formerly a sign or symbol, but is now the first letters of the Christian and Surname of the maker or worker, or the initial letters of a Company or Firm. The mark is registered at the Assay Office, and is struck by the manufacturer on all work, previous to sending the same for Assay and Hall Marking.

Stat. 37 Edw. III. Cap. 7, A.D. 1363, *ordains:*

That Goldsmiths as well in London, as elsewhere within the Realm, shall make all manner of Vessels and other Work of Silver, well and lawfully of the Allay of good Sterling. And that every Master Goldsmith shall have a Mark by himself, and the same Mark shall be known by them, which shall be assigned by the King to survey their Work and Allay; And that the said Goldsmiths set not their Mark upon their Works, till the said Surveyors have made their Assay, as shall be ordained by the King and his Council, and after the Assay made, the Surveyors shall set the King's Mark, and after the Goldsmith his Mark, for which he will answer.

NOTE.—This Statute, in order to prevent frauds, and to detect the workers of silver worse than Sterling Allay, directs every Master Goldsmith to have a separate mark for his work, and to enter it with the Wardens or Surveyors appointed to Assay and Mark the same, with the King's Mark.

THE DATE MARK

Is changed annually, and consists of a cycle of twenty letters of the alphabet, omitting j, v, w, x, y, z, in various type and shields.

NOTE.—A mark was used by the Goldsmiths' Company of London to denote the year about 200 years before it was required by Statute in 1696 (see under "Lion's Head Erased").

THE SOVEREIGN'S HEAD. A DUTY MARK
A.D. 1784 to 1890

Stat. 24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

Abolished with the Duty.
Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1890.

Denotes that the duty had been paid. It was common to all the Assay Offices, and to all Standards, from 1784 to 1890, in conjunction with the other Assay marks. Certain small articles were exempt from Duty, and on these the Sovereign's head was omitted.
From December 1784 to May 1785, the King's Head was struck "intaglio" upon Plate.

The Duty levied was as follows:

SILVER

	s.	d.	
1st December, 1784 . .	0	6	per oz.
5th July, 1797 . . .	1	0	,,
10th October, 1804 . .	1	3	,,
1st September, 1815 . .	1	6	,,

Abolished 1890.

GOLD

	s.	d.	
1st December, 1784 . .	8	0	per oz.
5th July, 1797 . . .	16	0	,,
1st September, 1815 . .	17	0	,,

Abolished 1890.

24 *Geo. III. Cap.* 53, *Sess.* 2.

In December 1784 the rebate of Duty on Plate exported was indicated by the figure of Britannia, struck "intaglio," upon the articles after or near to the usual Hall Mark, but the Section was repealed after a few months, 24th July, 1785, 25 Geo. III. Cap. 64, Sess. 2, and the mark discontinued, although such rebate was still allowed.

LION'S HEAD ERASED
FIGURE OF BRITANNIA } A.D. 1696

Stat. 8 *and* 9 *Will. III. Cap.* 8, *Secs.* 1 *and* 9.

Section I. enacts, That any Persons that shall bring any Sort of Wrought Plate, between 1st January, 1696, and

the 4th November, 1697, into any of His Majesty's Mints, shall be paid 5s. 4d. per ounce, for the same, and that the Master and Worker of the Mints shall receive all such wrought Plate, which shall plainly appear to have thereupon the Mark commonly used at the Hall, belonging to the Company of Goldsmiths in London, besides the workman's mark, as Sterling Silver, without tarrying till it be melted and assayed.

Section 9 enacts, That from the 25th March, 1697, no Person shall work any Silver Plate less in Fineness than 11 ozs. 10 dwts. of fine Silver per Pound Troy, &c., until marked with the Worker's Mark, the Marks of the Mystery or Craft of the Goldsmiths, which instead of the Leopard's Head and the Lion, shall for this Plate be a Lion's Head erased, and the Britannia, and a distinct variable mark to be used by the Wardens of the said Mystery, to denote the year in which such Plate is made, &c.

THE "CROWN"

38 *Geo. III. Cap.* 69 (*The Gold Plate (Standard) Act*, 1798).

Struck with the figure 18 upon 18 Carat Gold Plate, when this standard was authorised by the above Statute.

7 *and* 8 *Vic. Cap.* 22 (*The Gold and Silver Wares Act*, 1844).

Struck with the figure 22 upon 22 Carat Gold Plate, instead of the Lion passant previously used.

Note.—The Crown is not struck upon Gold Plate of the 15, 12 and 9 Carat Gold Standards.

THE FIGURE "22"

The Gold and Silver Wares Act, 1844.

Struck upon 22 Carat Gold Plate, in conjunction with the "Crown," instead of the Lion passant.

THE FIGURE "18"

The Gold Plate (Standard) Act, 1798.

Struck with the "Crown" upon 18 Carat Gold Plate, when this standard was authorised by the above Statute.

THE FIGURES "15·625"

The Gold and Silver Wares Act, 1854, *and Order in Council, dated 11th December*, 1854.

Struck upon 15 Carat Gold Plate, when this standard was authorised by the above Statute and Order in Council.

THE FIGURES "12·5"

The Gold and Silver Wares Act, 1854, *and Order in Council dated 11th December*, 1854.

Struck upon 12 Carat Gold Plate, when this standard was authorised by the above Statute and Order in Council.

THE FIGURES "9·375"

The Gold and Silver Wares Act, 1854, *and Order in Council dated 11th December*, 1854.

Struck upon 9 Carat Gold Plate when this standard was authorised by the above Statute, and Order in Council.

IMPORTED PLATE

Letter **F** on an Oval Escutcheon, A.D. 1867 to 1904.

The Customs Amendment Act, 1867.
Stat. 30 *and* 31 *Vic. Cap.* 82.

The Customs Duties Consolidation Act, 1876.
Stat. 39 *and* 40 *Vic. Cap.* 35, *Sec.* 2.

Struck in addition to the English Marks on Imported Plate.
Abolished by the Hall Marking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904.

PHOEBUS

The Hallmarking of Foreign Plate Act, 1904.
Stat. 4 *Edw.* 7, *Cap.* 6. *Order in Council dated* 24*th October*, 1904.

This mark struck in combination with the date letter and the standard in decimals upon all Foreign Plate of Gold and Silver, but was cancelled by Order in Council of 11th May, 1906.

SIGN OF THE "CONSTELLATION LEO"

Order in Council dated 11*th May*, 1906, *in substitution for "Phoebus," and in use at the present time.*

MARKS

For Gold: 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5 or 9·375.

For Silver: ·9584 or ·925.

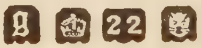
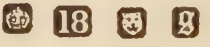
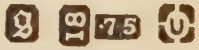
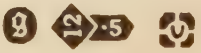
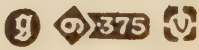
In combination with the Phoebus and Sign of the Constellation Leo and annual date letter.

WATCH CASE MARKS ONLY, 1887 TO 1907

The Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 28th November*, 1887, *and Order in Council dated 7th May*, 1907, *cancelling previous order and authorising the same marks as for other Foreign Plate, to be used on Watch Cases, see pages* 85, 86.

London

MODERN HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia or New Sterling Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Forgery of any die which is or has been required or authorised by law to be used for the marking or stamping of Gold or Silver Plate or Wares is felony, and punishable with penal servitude.—*The Forgery Act*, 1913.

1498	1518	1538	1558	1578
9	9	9	9	9
1500	1520	1540	1560	1580
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9
1510	1530	1550	1570	1590
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
1517	1537	1557	1577	1597

London

DATE LETTERS

1598	A	1618	a	1638	A	1658	A A	1678	a
9	B	9	b	9	B	9	B	9	b
1600	C	1620	C	1640	C	1660	C	1680	c
1	D	1	d	1	D	1	D	1	d
2	E	2	e	2	E	2	E	2	e
3	F	3	f	3	F	3	F	3	E
4	G	4	g	4	G	4	G	4	g
5	H	5	h	5	H	5	H	5	h
6	I	6	i	6	I	6	I	6	i
7	K	7	k	7	K	7	K	7	k
8	L	8	l	8	L	8	L	8	l
9	M	9	m	9	M	9	M	9	m
1610	N	1630	n	1650	N	1670	N	1690	n
1	O	1	o	1	O	1	O	1	o
2	P	2	p	2	P	2	P	2	p
3	Q	3	q	3	Q	3	Q	3	q
4	R	4	r	4	R	4	R	4	r
5	S	5	s	5	S	5	S	1695	S
6	T	6	t	6	T	6	T	1696 (PART OF YEAR)	t
1617	V	1637	v	1657	V	1677	W		

London

DATE LETTERS

1696		1716	A	1736	a	1756	A
7		7	B	7	b b	7	B
8		8	C	8	c	8	C
9		9	D	9	d	9	D
1700			E	1740	e	1760	E
1		1	F	1	f	1	F
2		2	G	2	g	2	G
3		3	H H	3	h	3	H
4		4	I	4	i	4	I
5		5	K	5	k	5	K
6		6	L	6	l	6	L
7		7	M	7	m	7	M
8		8	N N	8	n	8	N
9		9	O	9	o	9	O
1710		1730	P	1750	p	1770	P
1		1	Q	1	q	1	Q
2		2	R	2	r	2	R
3		3	S	3	s	3	S
4		4	T	4	t		T
1715		1735	V	1755	u	1775	U

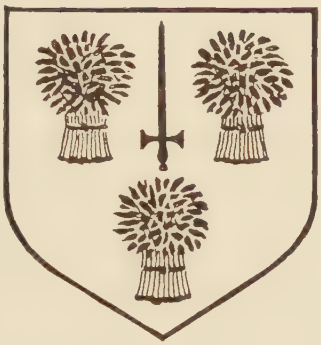
London

DATE LETTERS

London

DATE LETTERS

1856 a	1876 A	1896 a	1916 a
b	7 B	7 b	7 b
8 c	8 C	8 c	8 c
9 d	9 D	9 d	9 d
1860 e	1880 E	1900 e	1920 e
1 f	1 F	1 f	1 f
2 g	2 G	2 g	2 g
3 h	3 H	3 h	3 h
4 i	4 I	4 i	4 i
5 k	5 K	5 k	5
6 l	6 L	6 l	6
7 m	7 M	7 m	7
8 n	8 N	n	8
9 o	9 O	9 o	9
1870 p	1890 P	1910 p	1930
1 q	1 Q	1 q	1
2 r	2 R	2 r	2
3 s	3 S	3 s	3
4 t	4 T	4 t	4
1875 u	1895 U	1915 u	1935



CHESTER

THE COMPANY OF GOLDSMITHS OF THE CITY OF CHESTER

Photo of an Old Assay Office Copper Plate, dating from 1701, chiefly name punches of makers, but it also contains many Hall Marks.

NOTE ON THE HISTORY OF THE CHESTER COMPANY OF GOLDSMITHS

By James Foulkes Lowe, B.A.

When the Company of Goldsmiths at Chester was first founded is uncertain; we will not claim for it the antiquity attributed to it in the old Minute Book of the Company which says that it had rights and privileges by prescription beyond the memory of man, but assaying must have been practised at Chester at an early period as a mint was established in the city by Athelstan. The Doomsday Book also mentions that at the time of King Edward there were seven mint-masters who gave £7 to the king and earl above the farm when the money was coined.

The Company must have been in existence at an early date, for there is a Mercatorial Charter preserved in the Muniment Room at the Chester Town Hall granted by Randle Blundeville, 7th Earl of Chester, to the following effect: "Randle Earl of Chester to his constable diapher justice and sheriff and all his barons and bailiffs, and his men French as well as English, future as present,

greeting, be it known to you all, that I have given and granted and by present charter have confirmed, to all my citizens of Chester their guild mercatory, with all liberties and free customs which they ever better and freely and quietly have had in times of my ancestors in the aforesaid guild, but I prohibit on the forfeiture to me of ten pounds if any one shall disturb them. These witnesses Roger Constable of Chester, Ralph de Mont' Alto Steward of Chester. Thomas the Clerk. Written in the presence of the Earl and many others at Chester."

You will see that this charter only confirms previous ones. It is followed by confirmatory charters from the succeeding earls and from the reigning sovereigns when the earldom passed into the hands of the Royal Family. These charters are in the possession of the Chester Corporation.

The citizens of Chester were deprived of their privileges by Charles II. and also by James II., but the latter when he found it necessary to do something to restore his popularity, gave to the city of Chester what is called the Charter of Restitution in the year 1685. He also granted a charter to the Company of Goldsmiths empowering them to assay and Hall mark plate.

In the year 1697 all the provincial assay offices were abolished, but were re-established in 1700 by the Act of Parliament of William III. Chap. 4, and the Chester Assay Office has continued in operation up to the present time.

The Company of Goldsmiths exercised control over the sale and manufacture of articles of gold and silver from a much earlier date than the establishment of the

Assay Office, as proved by the numerous entries in their old Minute Book, the earliest appearing in the book some time previous to 1573.

NOTES FROM THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE CHESTER GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY

from 1702 to 1803

The Company was known as the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers, 19th February, 1705:

"Whereas by antient Custom the Goldsmiths and Watchmakers of the City have been one Company and whereas by Act of Parliament made 12th and 13th of King William entitled an Act for appointing Wardens and Assay Masters for assaying wrought plate by the Goldsmiths of the Cittys of York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester, and Norwich. The Goldsmiths of this citty are encorporated into a Company, it is mutually agreed between the said Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers be continued the same Company as formerly. But that the Watchmakers shall not exercise any part of the trade belonging to the Goldsmiths, nor the Goldsmiths exercise any trade belonging to the Watchmakers. But that each Brother of the said Company shall only exercise that trade to which he was bound apprentice, upon the penalty of Tenn Pounds for every offence."

The Company appears to have had the power to fine the Brothers of the Company for various matters. There is an entry in the Minute Book, 22nd March, 1722:

"It is this day agreed upon by the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers that if any Brother of the Company shall by any means entice another Brother's

Journey-Man from his employ in his house or shop, under any pretence whatever, or give or send to him any work to be done without consent of the Master of the said Journey-Man, the Brother so offending shall pay the sum of five pounds str. within one week to the Wardens of the said Company, for the use of the sd. Company."

The discipline also appears to have been very strict, for by an entry 29th May 1721 a Brother was fined for bad language to the Wardens.

"Memm. That att the Meeting this day Mr. Thos. Maddock, Lately admitted a Brother of The Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers, for obstinately refusing to obey the Lawful Orders of the said Company (as by said Oath obliged) and giving Indecent Language to the Wardens of the said Company was for his offence att a Meeting of June following sent for by the Company, and on acknowledging his offence was fined and paid 6s. 8d. to the Wardens, promising to behave himself decently and as a Brother for the Time to come."

Fines were frequently inflicted on the Brothers of the Company for absence from the annual meeting, and also for not paying their proportion of the disbursements. From an old cash book of the Company these disbursements were largely for convivial purposes, for there are numerous entries of money spent at various inns. "March 6th, 1684:—

	£	s.	d.
Spent att the Fountain Taverne .	00	02	04
Att The Raven 5 bottles of Sack .	00	11	08
Att the Wolfs Head . . .	00	08	00
Paid to Musick	00	10	00"

The Company subscribed annually from 1663 to 1803 to the horse-race, St. George's Plate, the forerunner of the Chester Cup Race.

"25th March, 1663. Given by order of the Alderman towards St. George's Plate, £00 05s. 00d."

The Diet seems to have been sent to London in early days: "March 19th, 1708. Memm. The reason why the election of the Wardens has not been made before this day was because Mr. Pulford refused to pay his portion of the charge of sending the Dyet Box to London the last year, viz., 1707," and there is an earlier entry in the old cash book.

"February 6th, 1686:—

	£	s.	d.
Paid for 5 essays at the tower	00	02	06
Paid for five essays att the hall	00	00	10 "

The latter must, I think, refer to the London Goldsmiths' Hall.

In 1664 the principal officer of the Company appears to have been the steward; in this year John Buck was steward.

There is a curious entry of the same date in respect to the steward.

"It is further ordered and agreed on the day above named that whatsoever Brother of the Company shall leave the Company till he hath brought the Steward home att the Midsummer Show shall pay a fine of five shillings."

THE COMPANY OF GOLDSMITHS OF THE CITY OF CHESTER

ASSAY OFFICE, CHESTER

The present Assay Office, re-established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold and Silver Plate.
Stat. 12 *and* 13 *Will. III. Cap.* 4, A.D. 1700.

PARTICULAR MARKS OF THE CHESTER HALL

1700 *to* 1719.
The City Arms, Lion's Head erased, Figure of Britannia, variable date letter.

1719 *to* 1779.
The City Arms, in addition to a Lion passant, a Leopard's Head and a variable date letter.

1779 *to* 1839.
The City Arms were changed to "Three Sheaves and a Sword," the other marks remaining the same.

1839 *to present time.*
The use of the Leopard's Head was discontinued, and the marks as at the present time, were commenced, viz.:

For Gold Plate.

22 CARAT GOLD
From 1844:
Three Sheaves and a Sword, 22, a Crown, a variable date letter.
Previous to this date, the same marks as for Standard Silver were used.

18 CARAT GOLD
Authorised 1798:
Three Sheaves and a Sword, 18, a Crown, a variable date letter.

15, 12 AND 9 CARAT GOLD

Authorised 1854:

Three Sheaves and a Sword, the figure to denote the Carat, and the decimal equivalent, viz., 15·625, 12·5, or 9·375 respectively, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF STANDARD QUALITY

Three Sheaves and a Sword, a Lion passant, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF NEW STERLING QUALITY

Three Sheaves and a Sword, Lion's Head erased, Figure of Britannia, a variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon, in addition to the other marks.

From 1887 *to* 1904:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1904 to the present time, see pages 87, 88, 89, 90.

An Acorn and two leaves, the figure to denote the Carat Gold, and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, and a variable date letter.

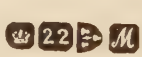
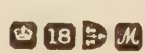
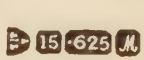
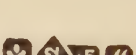
DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890:

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

Chester

MODERN CHESTER HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

Note.—The marks are found in various order and sizes, and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Forgery of any die which is or has been required or authorised by law to be used for the marking or stamping of Gold or Silver Plate or Wares, is felony, and punishable with penal servitude.—*The Forgery Act*, 1913.

Chester

DATE LETTERS

1701 A	1726 A	1751 A	1776 a
2 B	7 B	2 B	7 b
3 C	8 C	3 C	8 c
4 D	9 D	4 D	d
5 E	1730 E	5 E	1780 e
6 F	1 F	6 F	1 f
7 G	2 G	7 G	2 g
8 H	3 H	8 H	3 h
9 I	4 I	9 I	i
1710 K	5 J	1760 J	5 k
1 L	6 K	1 K	6 l
2 M	7 L	2 L	7 m
3 N	8 M	3 M	8 n
4 O	9 N	4 N	9 o
5 P	1740 O	5 O	1790 p
6 Q	1 P	6 P	1 q
7 R	2 Q	7 Q	2 r
8 S	3 R	8 R	3 s
T	4 S	9 S	4 t
1720 U	5 T	1770 T	5 u
1 V	6 U	1 U	1796 V
2 W	7 V	2 V	
3 X	8 W	3 W	
4 Y	9 X	4 X	
1725 Z	1750 Y	1775 Y	

Chester

DATE LETTERS

1797 A	1818 A	1839 A	1864 a
8 B	9 B	1840 B	5 b
9 C	1820 C	1 C	6 c
1800 D	1 D	2 D	7 d
1 E	2 D	3 E	8 e
2 F	E	4 F	9 f
3 G	4 F	5 G	1870 g
4 H	5 G	6 H	1 h
5 I	6 H	7 I	2 i
6 K	7 I	8 K	3 k
7 L	8 K	9 L	4 l
8 M	9 L	1850 M	5 m
9 N	1830 M	1 N	6 n
1810 O	1 N	2 O	7 o
1 P	2 O	3 P	8 p
2 Q	3 P	4 Q	9 q
3 R	4 Q	5 R	1880 r
4 S	5 R	6 S	1 s
5 T	6 S	7 T	2 t
6 U	7 T	8 U	1883 u
1817 V	1838 U	9 V	
		1860 W	
		1 X	
		2 Y	
		1863	

1884 A	1901 A		
5 B	2 B		
6 C	3 C		
7 D	4 D		
8 E	5 E		
9 F	6 F		
1890 G	7 G		
1 H	8 H		
2 I	9 I		
3 K	1910 K		
4 L	1 L		
5 M	2 M		
6 N	3 N		
7 O	4 O		
8 P	5 P		
9 Q	6 Q		
1900 R	7 R		
	8 S		
	9 T		
	1920 U		
	1 V		
	2 W		
	3 X		
	4 Y		
	1925		

BIRMINGHAM

THE GUARDIANS OF THE STANDARD OF WROUGHT PLATE IN BIRMINGHAM

ASSAY OFFICE, BIRMINGHAM

Established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Silver Plate only.
Stat. 13 *Geo. III. Cap.* 52, A.D. 1773.

Authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold Plate.
The Birmingham Assay Office Act, 1824.
Stat. 5 *Geo. IV. Cap.* 52.

PARTICULAR MARK OF THE BIRMINGHAM HALL
An Anchor.

The Hall Marks on Gold and Silver Plate Assayed and Hall Marked at the Birmingham Assay Office, are as follows:

22 CARAT GOLD
An Anchor, 22, a Crown, a variable date letter.
Previous to 1844 the same marks as for Standard Silver were used.

18 CARAT GOLD
An Anchor, 18, a Crown, a variable date letter.

15, 12 AND 9 CARAT GOLD
Authorised 1854.
An Anchor, the figure to denote the Carat and the decimal equivalent, viz., 15·625, 12·5, or 9·375 respectively, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF STANDARD QUALITY

An Anchor, a Lion passant, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF NEW STERLING QUALITY

An Anchor, Figure of Britannia, a variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the other marks.

From 1887 *to* 1907:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1904 to present time, see pages 87, 88, 89, 90.

An equilateral triangle, the figures to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, a variable date letter.

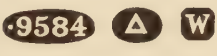
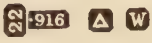
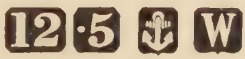
DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890:

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

Birmingham

MODERN BIRMINGHAM HALL MARKS

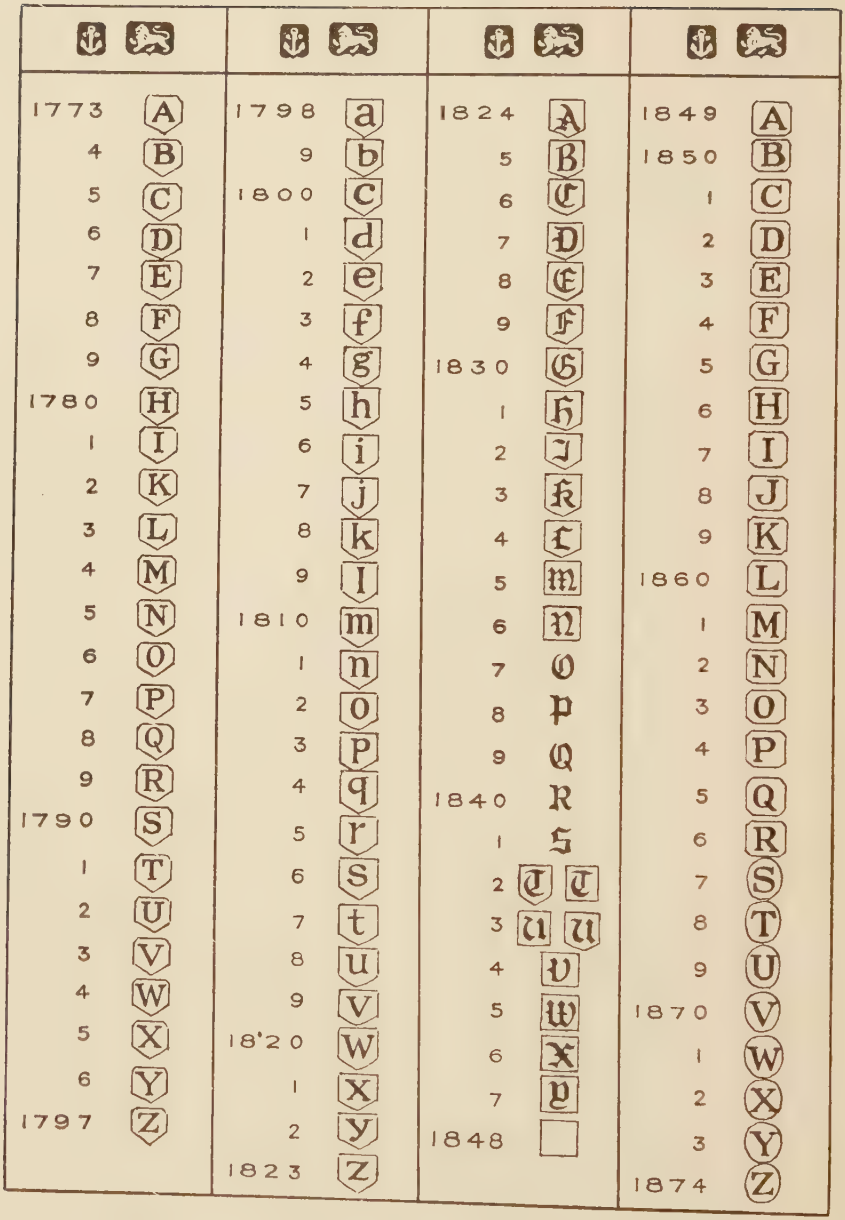
STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes, and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Forgery of any die which is or has been required or authorised by law, to be used for the marking or stamping of Gold or Silver Plate or Wares, is felony, and punishable with penal servitude.—*The Forgery Act*, 1913.

Birmingham

DATE LETTERS



Birmingham

DATE LETTERS

1875	a	1900	a	1925			
6	b	1	b	6			
7	c	2	c	7			
8	d	3	d	8			
9	e	4	e	9			
1880	f	5	f	1930			
1	g	6	g				
2	h	7	h				
3	i	8	i				
4	k	9	k				
5	l	1910	l				
6	m	1	m				
7	n	2	n				
8	o	3	o				
9	p	4	p				
1890	q	5	q				
1	r	6	r				
2	s	7	s				
3	t	8	t				
4	u	9	u				
5	v	1920	v				
6	w	1	w				
7	x	2	x				
8	y	3	y				
1899	z	1924	z				

SHEFFIELD

THE GUARDIANS OF THE STANDARD OF WROUGHT PLATE, SHEFFIELD

ASSAY OFFICE, SHEFFIELD

Established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Silver Plate only.

Stat. 13 *Geo. III. Cap.* 52, A.D. 1773.

Authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold Plate.

The Sheffield Corporation Act, 1903; *Stat.* 3 *Edw. VII. Cap.* 255, *Sec.* 47 *and* 48. Commenced 1st March, 1904.

PARTICULAR MARK OF THE SHEFFIELD HALL

A Crown, on Silver Plate.
A York Rose, on Gold Plate.

The Hall Marks on Gold and Silver Plate, Assayed and Hall Marked at the Sheffield Assay Office, are as follows:

For Gold Plate.

22 CARAT GOLD

A York Rose, a Crown, figure "22," a variable date letter.

18 CARAT GOLD

A York Rose, a Crown, figure "18," a variable date letter.

15, 12 AND 9 CARAT GOLD

A York Rose, the figure to denote the Carat and the decimal equivalent, viz., 15·625, 12·5 or 9·375 respectively, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF STANDARD QUALITY

A Crown, a Lion passant, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF NEW STERLING QUALITY

A Crown, Figure of Britannia, a variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the other marks.

From 1887 *to* 1907:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

"Crossed Arrows," the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, a variable date letter.

For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1906 to present time, see pages 89, 90.

The "Crossed Arrows" were replaced by the "Libra," the other marks remaining the same.

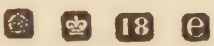
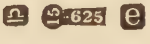
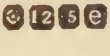
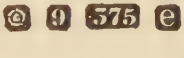
DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890:

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

Sheffield

MODERN SHEFFIELD HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Forgery of any die which is or has been required or authorised by law to be used for the marking or stamping of Gold or Silver Plate or Wares, is felony, and punishable with penal servitude.—*The Forgery Act*, 1913.

Sheffield

DATE LETTERS

1773	Ⓔ	1799	Ⓔ	1824	ⓐ	1844	Ⓐ
4		1800		5	ⓑ	5	Ⓑ
5		1		6	ⓒ	6	Ⓒ
6		2		7	ⓓ	7	Ⓓ
7		3		8	ⓔ	8	Ⓔ
8		4		9	ⓕ	9	Ⓕ
9		5		1830	ⓖ	1850	Ⓖ
1780		6		1	ⓗ	1	Ⓗ
1		7		2	ⓚ	2	Ⓘ
2		8		3	ⓛ	3	Ⓚ
3		9		4	ⓜ	4	Ⓛ
4		1810		5	ⓟ	5	Ⓜ
5		1		6	ⓠ	6	Ⓝ
6		2		7	ⓡ	7	Ⓞ
7		3		8	ⓢ	8	Ⓟ
8		4		9	ⓣ	9	Ⓡ
9		5		1840	ⓤ	1860	Ⓢ
1790		6		1	ⓥ	1	Ⓣ
1		7		2	ⓦ	2	Ⓤ
2	𝔲	8		1843	ⓧ	3	Ⓥ
3	𝔬	9				4	Ⓦ
4	𝔪	1820				5	Ⓧ
5		1				6	Ⓨ
6		2				1867	Ⓩ
7		1823					
1798							

Sheffield

DATE LETTERS

1868	A	1893	a	1918	a		
9	B	4	b	9	b		
1870	C	5	c	1920	c		
1	D	6	d	1	d		
2	E	7	e	2	e		
3	F	8	f	3	f		
4	G	9	g	4	g		
5	H	1900	h	5			
6	J	1	i	6			
7	K	2	k				
8	L	3	l				
9	M	4	m				
1880	N	5	n				
1	O	6	o				
2	P	7	p				
3	Q	8	q				
4	R	9	r				
5	S	1910	s				
6	T	1	t				
7	U	2	u				
8	V	3	v				
9	W	4	w				
1890	X	5	x				
1	Y	6	y				
1892	Z	1917					

EDINBURGH

THE INCORPORATION OF GOLDSMITHS OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH

ASSAY OFFICE, EDINBURGH

James VI. in 1586 granted certain powers to the Deacon and Masters of the Craft.

Incorporated by Charter of James VII. in 1687.

Assay Office established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold and Silver Plate.
The Plate (Scotland) Act, 1836. *Stat.* 6 *and* 7 *Will. IV. Cap.* 69.

PARTICULAR MARKS OF THE EDINBURGH HALL

FOR SILVER PLATE OF STANDARD QUALITY
A Castle, A Thistle, a variable date letter.

FOR SILVER PLATE OF NEW STERLING QUALITY
Figure of Britannia, a Castle, a Thistle, a variable date letter.

In 1798, the figure "18" was added to the Standard Silver marks to denote Plate of 18 Carat Gold, prior to which 22 Carat was the only legal Gold Standard.

In 1844, the figure "22" was added to the Silver marks, to denote Plate of 22 Carat Gold, prior to which the same marks as for Standard Silver were used.

In 1854, on the introduction of the Lower Standards of Gold, the figures "15," "12" and "9" were added to the Standard Silver marks, to denote Gold of 15, 12 or 9 Carat respectively. The Thistle was omitted.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the other marks.

From 1887 *to* 1907:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1904 to present time, see pages 87, 88, 89, 90.
St. Andrew's Cross, the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, and a variable date letter.

DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890:

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck on all articles liable to duty.

NOTES

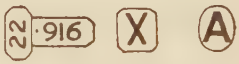
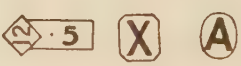
From 1457 to 1483, two stamps only used, viz., Maker's mark and Assay Master's initials.
From 1483 to 1681, three stamps used, viz., Maker's mark, Assay Master's initials, Town mark.

From 1681 to 1759, four stamps used, viz., Maker's mark, Assay Master's initials, Hall or Town mark (a castle), Date mark (variable date letter).

From 1759 to present time, four stamps used, viz., maker's mark, Hall or Town mark (a castle), Date mark (variable date letter), Standard mark (thistle).

Edinburgh

MODERN EDINBURGH HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Edinburgh

DATE LETTERS

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Edinburgh

DATE LETTERS

1780	A	1806	a	1832	A	1857	A
1	B	7	b	3	B	8	B
2	C	8	c	4	C	9	C
3	D	9	d	5	D	1860	D
4	E	1810	e	6	E	1	E
5	F	1	f	7	F	2	F
6	G	2	g	8	G	3	G
7	G	3	h	9	H	4	H
8	H	4	i	1840	I	5	I
9	I J	5	j	1	K	6	K
1790	K	6	k	2	L	7	L
1	L	7	l	3	M	8	M
2	M	8	m	4	N	9	N
3	N	9	n	5	O	1870	O
4	O	1820	o	6	P	1	P
5	P	1	p	7	Q	2	Q
6	Q	2	q	8	R	3	R
7	R	3	r	9	S	4	S
8	S	4	s	1850	T	5	T
9	T	5	t	1	U	6	U
1800	U	6	u	2	W	7	V
1	V	7	v	3	W	8	W
2	W	8	w	4	X	9	X
3	X	9	x	5	Y	1880	Y
4	Y	1830	y	1856		1881	Z
1805	Z	1831	z				

1882	a	1906	A		
3	b	7	B		
4	c	8	C		
5	d	9	D		
6	e	1910	E		
7	f	1	F		
8	g	2	G		
9	h	3	H		
1890	i	4	I		
1	k	5	K		
2	l	6	L		
3	m	7	M		
4	n	8	N		
5	o	9	O		
6	p	1920	P		
7	q	1	Q		
8	r	2	R		
9	s	3	S		
1900	t	4	T		
1	u	5			
2	w	6			
3	x	7			
4	y	8			
1905	z	9			
		1930			

GLASGOW

THE GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW

ASSAY OFFICE, GLASGOW

Established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold and Silver Plate.

Stat. 59 Geo. III. Cap. 28, A.D. 1819. *See also the Plate (Scotland) Act*, 1836.

PARTICULAR MARKS OF THE GLASGOW HALL

FOR SILVER PLATE

The Arms of the city of Glasgow, being a tree with bird on top, a bell hanging from branches, a salmon with ring in mouth lying across the trunk.

A Lion rampant.
A Thistle, first used in 1914.
A variable date letter.

FOR GOLD PLATE

The figure "18" was added to these marks, to denote Plate of 18 Carat Gold.

In 1844, the figure "22" was added to these marks to denote Plate of 22 Carat Gold, previous to this the same marks as for Standard Silver were used.

In 1854, on the introduction of the Lower Standards of Gold, the figures 15·625, 12·5 and 9·375 were added to

these marks, to denote Plate of 15, 12 or 9 Carat Gold respectively. The Lion rampant was omitted. The Thistle is now also omitted.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the above marks.

From 1887 *to* 1907:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

A Bishop's Mitre, the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, and a variable date letter.

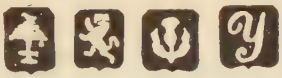
For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1906 to the present time, see pages 89, 90.
The Bishop's Mitre was altered to the "Double Block letter 'F' inverted," the other marks remaining the same.

DUTY MARK

From 1819, on the establishment of the Office, to 1890. The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all work liable to duty.

Glasgow

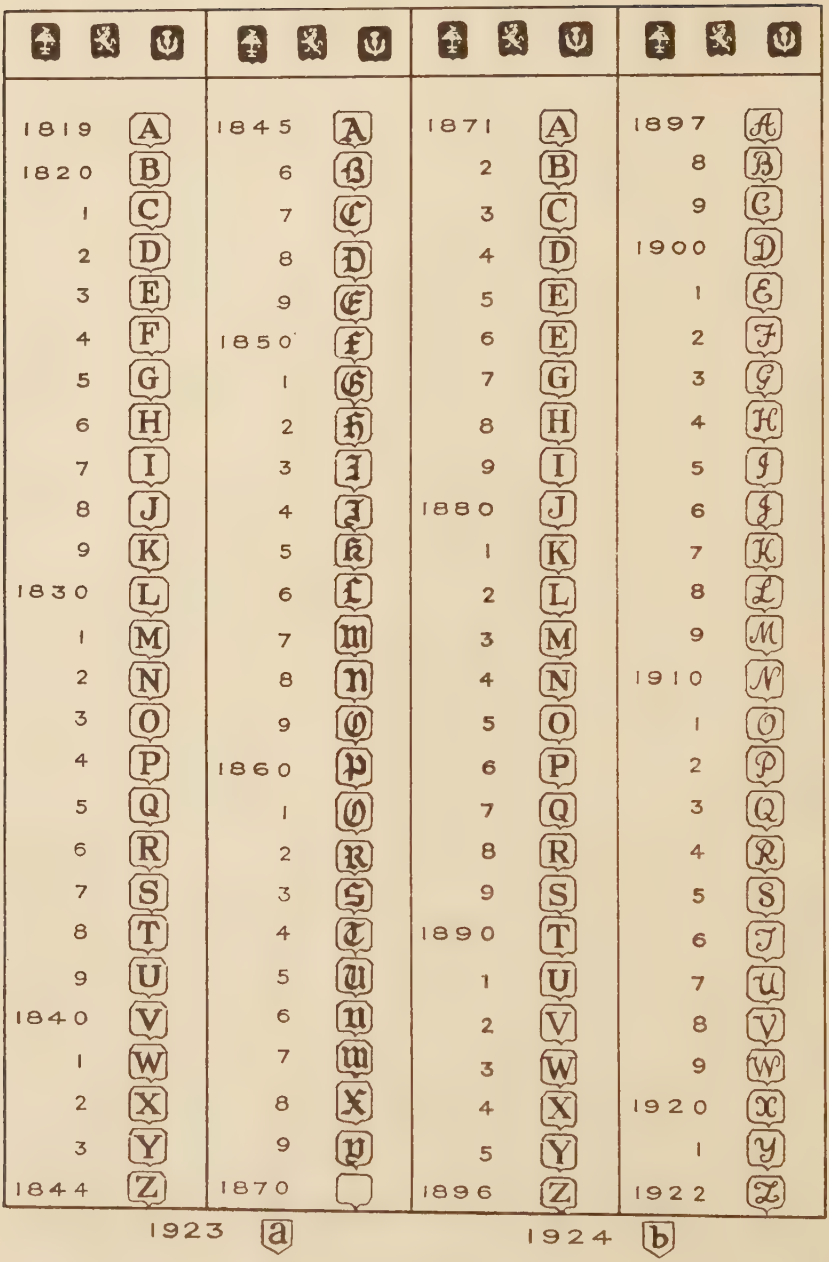
MODERN GLASGOW HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
Britannia Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes, and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Glasgow

DATE LETTERS



DUBLIN

THE FRATERNITY OR COMPANY OF GOLDSMITHS OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN

ASSAY OFFICE, DUBLIN

Established and authorised to Assay and Hall Mark Gold and Silver Plate.
Charles I. by charter of the 13th year of his reign, incorporated the Goldsmiths of the City of Dublin, A.D. 1637.

PARTICULAR MARKS OF THE DUBLIN HALL

FOR STANDARD SILVER AND 22 CARAT GOLD
Figure of Hibernia, Harp Crowned, variable date letter.

20 CARAT GOLD
Authorised A.D. 1784.
The only office authorised to mark this Standard.
Figure of Hibernia, a Plume of three Feathers, variable date letter.

18 CARAT GOLD
Authorised A.D. 1798.
Figure of Hibernia, a Unicorn's Head, variable date letter.

15, 12 AND 9 CARAT GOLD
Authorised A.D. 1854.
Figure of Hibernia, the figure to denote the Carat and the decimal equivalent, viz., 15·625, 12·5 or 9·375 respectively, a variable date letter.

PLATE MANUFACTURED ABROAD AND IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

From 1867 *to* 1904:

A letter "F" on an oval escutcheon in addition to the other marks.

From 1887 *to* 1907:

For the marks struck upon Watch Cases of foreign manufacture during this period, see pages 85, 86.

From 1904 *to* 1906. See pages 87, 88.

A Shamrock, the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent, viz., 22·916, 20·833, 18·75, 15·625, 12·5, 9·375, or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, viz., ·9584 or ·925, a variable date letter.

For Watch Cases from 1907, and for other wares from 1906 to present time, see pages 89, 90.
The "Shamrock" was altered to "A Boujet," the other marks remaining the same.

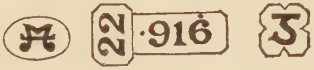
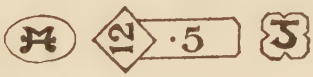
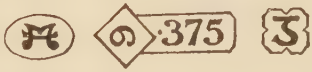
DUTY MARK

From 1784 *to* 1890:

The Duty Mark, being the Sovereign's Head, struck upon all articles liable to duty.

Dublin

MODERN DUBLIN HALL MARKS

STANDARD	PLATE Manufactured in the United Kingdom	PLATE Manufactured Abroad and Imported into the United Kingdom
Sterling Silver		
22 Carat Gold		
20 Carat Gold		
18 Carat Gold		
15 Carat Gold		
12 Carat Gold		
9 Carat Gold		

NOTE.—The marks are found in various order and sizes, and do not necessarily follow the above rotation.

Dublin

DATE LETTERS

1721	1746	1771	1796
2	7	2	7
3	8	3	8
4	9	4	9
5	1750	5	1800
6	1	6	1
7	2	7	2
8	3	8	3
9	4	9	4
1730	5	1780	5
1	6	1	6
2	7	2	7
3	8	3	8
4	9	4	9
5	1760	5	1810
6	1	6	1
7	2	7	2
8	3	8	3
9	4	9	4
1740	5	1790	5
1	6	1	6
2	7	2	7
3	8	3	8
4	9	4	9
1745	1770	1795	1820

1821 A	1846 a	1871 A	1896 A
2 B	7 b	2 B	7 B
3 C	8 c	3 C	8 C
4 D	9 d	4 D	9 D
5 E	1850 e	5 E	1900 E
6 F	1 f	6 F	1 E
7 G	2 g	7 G	2 G
8 H	3 h	8 H	3 H
9 I	4 i	9 I	4 I
1830 K	5 k	1880 K	5 K
1 L	6 l	1 L	6 L
2 M	7 m	2 M	7 M
3 N	8 n	3 N	8 N
4 O	9 o	4 O	9 O
5 P	1860 p	5 P	1910 P
6 Q	1 q	6 Q	1 Q
7 R	2 r	7 R	2 R
8 S	3 s	8 S	3 S
9 T	4 t	9 T	4 T
1840 U	5 u	1890 U	1915 U
1 V	6 v	1 V	
2 W	7 w	2 W	
3 X	8 x	3 X	
4 Y	9 y	4 Y	
1845 Z	1870 z	1895 Z	

Dublin

DATE LETTERS

1916	A			
7	b			
8	C			
9	D			
1920	E			
1	F			
2	G			
3	h			
4	I			
5				
6				

MARKS TO BE USED ON FOREIGN GOLD AND SILVER PLATE

From *The London Gazette*. Reproduced by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office

The Marks authorised to be used on Foreign Gold and Silver Watch Cases from December 1887 to May 1907.

Shield for Foreign Gold Case (Actual Size)

Shield for Foreign Silver Case (Actual Size)

PARTICULAR MARK FOR EACH HALL

LONDON
(Phœbus)

BIRMINGHAM
(Equilateral Triangle)

CHESTER
(Acorn and two Leaves)

SHEFFIELD
(Crossed Arrows

EDINBURGH
(St. Andrew's Cross)

GLASGOW
(Bishop's Mitre)

DUBLIN
(Shamrock)

CARAT MARKS FOR GOLD

22 and **·917**
20 and **·833**
18 and **·75**
15 and **·625**
12 and **·5**
9 and **·375**

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LONDON

Gold

Silver

BIRMINGHAM

Gold

Silver

CHESTER

Gold

Silver

SHEFFIELD

Silver only

EDINBURGH

Gold

Silver

GLASGOW

Gold

Silver

DUBLIN

Gold

Silver

From *The London Gazette*. Reproduced by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office

The Marks authorised to be used on Foreign Gold and Silver Plate from October 1904 to May 1906.
The Hall Mark particular to each Assay Office, to be used together with the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, together with the Annual Date Letter.

LONDON	BIRMINGHAM	CHESTER	SHEFFIELD
(Phœbus)	(Equilateral Triangle)	(Acorn and two Leaves)	(Crossed Arrows)

GOLD

SILVER

EDINBURGH	GLASGOW	DUBLIN
(St. Andrew's Cross)	(Bishop's Mitre)	(Shamrock)

GOLD

SILVER

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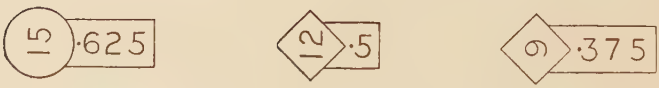
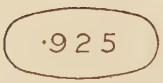
Gold



Gold



Silver

From *The London Gazette*. Reproduced by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office

The Marks authorised to be used on Foreign Gold and Silver Plate from May 1906, and Watch Cases from 1907, to the present time.
The Hall Mark particular to each Assay Office to be used together with the figure to denote the Carat Gold and the decimal equivalent or the Standard of the Silver in decimals, together with the Annual Date Letter.

LONDON	BIRMINGHAM	CHESTER	SHEFFIELD
(Sign of Constellation Leo)	(Equilateral Triangle)	(Acorn and two Leaves)	(Libra)

GOLD

SILVER

EDINBURGH	GLASGOW	DUBLIN
(St. Andrew's Cross)	(Double block letter F inverted)	(Boujet)

GOLD

SILVER

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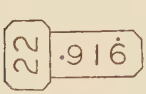
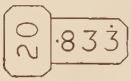
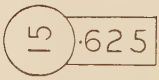
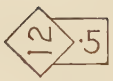


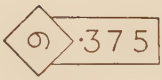


GOLD

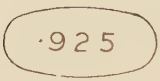


GOLD





GOLD



SILVER

OTHER ASSAY OFFICES IN ENGLAND

Stat. 2 *Hen. VI. Cap.* 14, A.D. 1423, *ordains:*

"That no Goldsmith or Worker of Silver in London, sell any Workmanship of Silver unless as fine as Sterling, except necessary Soder in the making. And that no Goldsmith nor Jeweller, nor other, that worketh Harness of Silver shall set the same to sell within the City, before Touched with the Leopard's Head, if it may reasonably bear the same, and also with the Workman's Mark, on Forfeiture of double, and that the Mark of every Goldsmith be known to the Wardens of the same Craft. And if the said Keeper of the Touch, touch any such Harness with the Leopard's Head, except it be as fine in Allay as the Sterling, he shall forfeit the double Value to the King and to the Party. And it is likewise ordained, in the City of York, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Lincoln, Norwich, Bristol, Salisbury and Coventry, that every one shall have divers Touches, according to the Ordinance of the Mayors, Bailiffs or Governors of the same Towns, and that no Goldsmith, nor other Workers of Silver, nor Keeper of the said Touches within the same Towns, shall set to sale, or touch any Silver, in other Manner than in London, on Pain of the said Forfeiture. And that no Goldsmith or other Worker of Silver in England where no Touch is ordained, shall work any Silver, except it be as fine in Allay as the Sterling, and that he set thereon his mark before he set it to sale; and if it is not as fine, he shall forfeit

double value, as in London. And Justices &c. shall hear, inquire and determine offences and make due Execution by their Discretions."

A.D. 1700. No Country Assay Office did now exist, as appears by the following Statute:

Stat. 12 *Will. III. Cap.* 4 *recites:*

"That the Goldsmiths, Silversmiths and Plate Workers remote from London, are under great difficulties and Hardships in the Exercise of their Trades, for want of Assayers in convenient places, to assay and touch their Wrought Plate, And therefore, for Remedy thereof, and for preventing all Frauds and Corruptions therein,

Section 1 Appoints the several Cities where the Mints were lately erected for recoining the Silver money, viz., York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester and Norwich, for the Assaying and Marking of Wrought Plate, and for executing the powers, authorities and directions given by this Act."

Section 3 enacts that no Goldsmith, &c., there shall work any Silver Plate less in Fineness than the Standard, nor put to sale, exchange or sell the same, until marked with the worker's mark, the Lion's Head erased, the Britannia, the Arms of the City, and a variable yearly Roman letter.

A.D. 1701.

Stat. 1 *Ann. Stat.* 1, *Cap.* 9, *Sec.* 3, *recites:*

"That in the Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne there is, and time out of mind hath been an ancient Company

of Goldsmiths which with their Families, by the said Penalty are like to be ruined, and the said trade utterly lost in the said Town. And recites, That by the Stat. of 2 Henry VI., Cap. 14, the Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne is one of the places appointed to have Touches for Wrought Silver Plate; Therefore this Act appoints the Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne for the Assay and Marking Wrought Plate as fully as if named in the said Act of 12 William III., Cap. 4."

NOTE.—The York Office was closed about 1858.
The Exeter Office was closed about 1883.
The Bristol Office was closed before 1773.
The Newcastle Office was closed about 1884.
The Norwich Office did not reopen after 1701.

WEIGHTS

In England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, there are two ways of estimating weights in common use, viz., Troy and Avoirdupois.

Troy weight is used for the precious metals Gold, Silver, Platinum, etc.

Avoirdupois weight is used for all other articles of commerce.

The Carat weight used for denoting the weight of precious stones has no legal authority. The trade generally reckons four grains Troy to a Carat, and each Carat is further subdivided into four parts—designated Carat grains.

The Carat used for weighing precious stones must not be confused with the Gold Carat, which is not a weight, but indicates only the number of parts of Fine or Pure Gold in 24 parts.

Troy Weight

24 grains (grs.)	=	1 Pennyweight (dwt.)
20 Pennyweights (dwts.)	=	1 ounce (oz.)
12 ounces (ozs.)	=	1 pound (lb.)

Avoirdupois Weight

27·34375 grains (grs.)	=	1 dram (dr.)
16 drams (drs.)	=	1 ounce (oz.)
16 ounces (ozs.)	=	1 pound (lb.)

1 pound Troy	= 5760 grains
1 pound Avoirdupois	= 7000 grains
1 ounce Troy	= 480 grains
1 ounce Avoirdupois	= 437·5 grains

The grain is the same weight in both Troy and Avoirdupois.

1 lb. Avoirdupois is heavier than 1 lb. Troy; but 1 oz Troy is heavier than 1 oz. Avoirdupois.

1 gramme = 15·43235 grains

1 Troy oz.	= 480	grains	= 31·10349 grammes
1 Avoir. oz.	= 437·5	grains	= 28·34953 grammes
		1 grain	= ·06479 grammes

To convert pounds Avoirdupois into ounces Troy, multiply by 700 and divide product by 48.
To convert ounces Troy into pounds Avoirdupois, multiply by 48 and divide product by 700.

DEFINITION OF "CARAT" AND OTHER WORDS

FROM AN OLD BOOK

BY

SIR JOHN PETTUS OF SUFFOLK, KNIGHT

Dated 1683

"CARRAT (signifying a weight) is a French and Italian Word, much used by our Author in his second Book; and it seems to come from the Arabian, Kirat, but Cotgrave saith, That Goldsmiths and Minters esteem it at a third part of an Ounce, and among Jewellers and precious Stone-cutters, but the 19 part of an Ounce; so as eight of them are but one Sterling, and a Sterling is the 24th part of an Ounce, and 3 Grains of Assize, or 4 Grains of Diamond weight make a Carrat.

"Torriano's Addition to Florio, calls it Carrato, signifying, saith he, a weight or degree in Metals, Diamonds, Rubies, &c., and doth not determine it: but Mr. Howel in his ingenious Tetraglotton (Sect. 40) proportions it to the 24 part of an ounce, and Mr. Webster in his History of Metals speaks more clearly, and saith, The Carrat or Charrat is a term given (by the Officers of the Mint, and Wardens of Goldsmiths) to a certain composition of Weights, that are only used for Assaying, and computing the standard of Gold, and are of two Contents, namely, either the 24 part of an ounce, Troy-weight, and is compounded thus; of the pound carrats

2 d. weight, and 12 grains, Troy, make a Carrat grain, and 4 such carrat grains make one carat, which is half an ounce, or 10 d. weight Troy, and 24 of such carats make a pound or 12 ounces Troy, the other way of Computation is of an ounce carat, five Troy grains make one carat grain, and four of such grains make one carat, and 24 such carats make one ounce Troy, and for assaying he recommends the ounce carat, as more easy for Calculation, than the pound carot, which is made more perspicuous by our Author, etc.

"Money. T. Muntz, L. Moneta, Pecunia, &c. see Coyn, Metals, Measures and Weights; and this Money is proportioned from 20 Grains of Barly Corns, which make a scruple (according to Physicians' terms) or a Penny according to metallick terms; and 20 pennyes make an Ounce, and 12 Ounces (either of Gold or Silver) makes a pound (according to the Trojan computation, and thence called Troy Weight); as for Haver-du-poise weight, or Haver weight, it hath 16 Ounces to the Pound, and Metals and Gems are not concerned with it: however, the Barly-Corn bears the sway in both; so the poor products of the superficies of the Earth, seem to give Laws to all our subterranean Treasures, both before, and when it is made passable, and communicable or currant Money; whereby I conjecture, that the word sterling Money, may not improperly be derived from Sterilis, or natural unfructified Ground (which is proper for Barly) whereas fertil, dung'd, or artificial Grounds, makes it more ponderous, and its Grains not of so true a standard for sterling Money, as those of a more Natural Earth.

"Now to all Silver or Gold Money, there is an Allay; that is, a taking away part of the fine Metal, and adding the like part of the baser; that is of Copper, &c., and this is done upon two accounts: first, that the baser Metal may make the finer to be more apt for Coynage: the other is, that the Soveraign of that Government where it is so allay'd, may by the deduction or allay, be paid the full charge for the Coynage or Minting of it: Now the less allay that is put to the Coyned Gold or Silver, doth render the Government the more Honourable, and the Soveraignty of a greater Esteem, than in other parts, where they have greater allay (Vaughan).

"It is good for a Traveller to be skillful in the different allays, whereby, as a Friend of mine told me, That he carried out an 100 l. with him, and with his art of Exchanges, in Countrys where allays differ'd, he bore his Charges of Travel, and brought his stock home again; however, this Mony thus allayed, is called Coyn, when the Soveraign Stamp is upon it (which is a Legal Stamp) and every Soveraignty useth a different Stamp, as here in England, and in the Empire, France, Spain, &c., proper to its Soveraignty; and every piece of money so stampt, hath almost a different allay: yet all Princes do agree in severe, yet just, Penalties, for Counterfeiting allays or stamps, and make it, as in England, High Treason. vid. Coke 2, In. p. 575.

"Measure, T. Masz, L. Mensura which are considered either of Longitude, Latitude, Altitude or Profundity: and these are sometimes used distinctly, or joyntly, and so reduced to Measures of Application, T. Zuphurgung, and to Measures of Capacity, T. Emphaung, the

first of the four (called Longitude, L. Longitudo) is termed also in T. Masz, A. Length, but the Latine hath variety of Words adequated to the extention of things to be measured, as the Measuring of Lands, Geodesia, &c. 2. Latitude, T. Breit, A. Bredth, broad, and large, L. Largus, and Latitudo: 3. Altitude, L. Altitudo, T. Die hahe, A. Hight. 4. Profundity, T. Lage, L. Log, and Profunditas, A. Depth, deep, and many other names, according to the proportion of natural or artificial Contentures, as Cyathus and Coclearium, &c., about which Dictionaries may be consulted, for I speak only of such as are mentioned by Erckern for metallick uses, of which some are uncertain measures, (viz. a Fingers length and bredth, an Hands thickness, and breath, a span, a mans foot, a cubit, &c. and some certain, viz. a yard, an ell, a fathom, &c. and of the mensuræ Capacitatis, some are also uncertain, as Crucibles, Tests, Cruises, Jugs, Pots, &c. and some certain, as Pints, Quarts, Galons, &c. of which in order; And first of the Finger, T. also Finger, L. Digitus, which signifies the length and bredth, but we may read in Georgius Agricola (de mensuris & ponderibus, and other Books) that they consist of several Proportions; and in Gallen (de usu partium) of several uses: and of this word Digitus, Holiock makes no less than 24 Observations: but that which concerns this subject, I have in part collected from Cor. Agrippa, that the Thumb, or first finger (Teut. Daum, L. Pollex) was dedicated to Venus and the Moon; and in Metallicks, lucky to Silver and Copper; the fourth Finger to Mars, and lucky to Iron and Copper, red (and yellow, artificial, that is Brass:) the third called digitus infamis (I know not on what grounds)

to Saturn and Jupiter: and lucky to Lead, Tin, Silver and Gold: The second finger to the Sun and Saturn, lucky only to Gold: the first or little Finger to Mercury, and lucky to Quick silver, Tin and Silver; and these Notions are the chief Foundations of the Art of Chyromancy or Palmistry, so that by the Fingers and lines in the hands, the temper of men might be the better known for Metallick and Chimical Purposes (but the Poet who ever he was that made this Verse).

'Miles, mercator, stultus, bene nuptus, amator,'

applicable to the 5 fingers, had I conceive another prospect, to shew that their Fate was at their Fingers ends, and by the Influences of the stars did direct them to their most genuine Imployments, whereby the Chiromancer might know to what one was by Nature adapted; and accordingly, by that Artist, was directed to apply himself: but to pass these Curiosities, it is writ by several Authors, that the length and bredth of the fingers, and so of the hand, gave the first Rules to the smaller Measures, the next is the Span, T. Span, L. Spithama, which consists of three parts, viz., the Thumbs, (having three joynts) made one; the space between the Thumb and finger, making the other, and one of the fingers (having also three Joynts) making the third, so in all seven; and though these seven do differ in proportion (the spaces and joynts being unequal) yet from the top of the Thumb to the top of either finger fully extended, was the span, consisting of seven proportions: and 'tis observable, That David calls mans Life a span, which afterwards he explains, by saying the Years of Man are seventy, that is, seven decimals, or seven times ten, which is seven spans,

so as the short span is from the Thumb to the end of the fourth or little finger, but if he had a long life or Span, viz., from the Thumb's end to the end of the middle Finger, it occasioned but pain in the extending it (from pollice the Thumb to stultitia the Fools Finger) which is the Vanity he speaks of, and as the spaces differ in proportion, so doth our several ages.

"The next is a Foot, T. Fusz, L. Pes, and though this natural Foot is an uncertain Measure, yet it retains its name, by a certain new Measure, called a Foot-Rule; and as to the first, I may say, that that Foot hath some Anology with David's Span; for by the Span the length of our Race is adjusted, and by the Foot that Race is to be run.

"My next consideration is of a Cubit, which is accounted from the Elbow to the end of the middle Finger. T. Cubit, L. Cubitus, and the same word Cubitus also signifies a Couch or Bed, telling us, That before our Race is run, we grow weary, lay down on our Cubit (or Couch) to ease our Limbs, where we lean on our brachial Cubit or Elbow, and commit our Heads to be supported by our Span, or handle of our Cubit, and then we consider of our abillity or disabillity, in getting to the End of our measure of application, and the Divine Prize of our Race proposed to us.

"Next for the mensura capacitatis, it consisted only of the contraction of the palm of the Hand, which was originally thought sufficient to hold so much as might quench the Thirst of Nature.

"But when by excess we forsook the proportion of our first Constitutions, Frames and Pugils, some having Fingers, Hands and Spans, more than treble to the

common length, and also their Feet a Cubit long (as Pliny tells us) and of the Sciopides (which Munster speaks of) that one Foot sheltered their whole Body against the sun, whereby in process of time, almost all Men and Women became disproportionate to that perfect proportion (which I have mentioned in my Volatiles on Adam, from Paulus Lovatius) it was time to make some certain Measure both of Application and Capacity, least the large gripple Hand, should take away all from the lesser, and justify it from its large Dimensions, and therefore much to the Honour of the Botanists and Galenists; the Standard of measures was made from the Barley-Corn, which is so Noble a Plant, that it is observed (whether it grows upon a fertile or steril Soyl, yet) it continues one constant proportion of Measure (though it may differ in weight) and of these, three in length or six in breadth do make an Inch, which the T. calls ein daumen breit, or the bredth of the Thumb, but in Latine the word is Uncia, which they apply both to an Inch of Application and to the Ounce of Ponderosity, still making the Grains of Barly or Wheat their Judges, both in measure and weights: now this Uncia or Inch of Application (as Arrius Montanus saith) consists of the breadth of six Barly Corns, thereby making bredth to have a Priority to length) but the later Writers, more properly make three Barly Corns in length, to be the length of an Inch, and twelve Inches of a Foot, and for Measure of Ponderosity, those who are for the Troy Weight, make twenty four full Grains of Wheat, and twenty penny Weights to be an Ounce, and twelve Ounces a Pound, which complyes with the measure of Aplication (or 12 Inches to the Foot) and

this weight is used for Gold and Silver, &c. but others who are for Aver-de-poise weight allow 20 grains of Wheat to make a scruple, three scruples a dram, and 16 drams to an ounce, and 16 ounces to a pound: and these of Ponderosity do also comply with the measure of Capacity; for I compute that a Pound of Troy, viz., 5760 grains of Wheat will fill a certain Vessel which the Latines call Hemina, and the English (and in most Europian Languages a Pint (or Pinte) two of which makes a Quart, and four a Pottle, and eight a Gallon, so as the Pound of Ponderosity and the Pint of Capacity are both equal, and this also agrees with the Measure of Application, for a foot square (on a cubical account) makes 144 Inches, so that for every one of the 144 Inches, 40 grains of Barley being allowed (as the just proportions of Capacity) it amounts also to 5760."

The book finishes thus:

"Now, may the Lord God, Creator and Preserver of all Creatures, be graciously pleased to open the hidden Treasures of the rich Gold Sope, also of Gold, Silver and all Metallick Veins, for upholding the Posterity of the Poor Sons of Adam, and by blessings and long continuance, preserve them for his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christs sake, and that we may use them with thanks and praise Amen."

KINGS AND QUEENS OF ENGLAND

Plantagenet

Edward I.	1272–1307	Edward III.	1327–1377
Edward II.	1307–1327	Richard II.	1377–1399

Lancaster

Henry IV.	1399–1413	Henry V.	1413–1422

Henry VI., 1422–1461

York

Edward IV.	1461–1483	Edward V.	1483

Richard III., 1483–1485

Tudor

Henry VII.	1485–1509	Edward VI.	1547–1553
Henry VIII.	1509–1547	Mary	1553–1558

Elizabeth, 1558–1603

Stuart

James I.	1603–1625	Charles II.	1660–1685
Charles I.	1625–1649	James II.	1685–1689
Commonwealth	1649–1660	William III.	1689–1702

Anne, 1702–1714

HANOVER

George I.	1714–1727	George IV.	1820–1830
George II.	1727–1760	William IV.	1830–1837
George III.	1760–1820	Victoria	1837–1901

SAXE-COBURG		HOUSE OF WINDSOR	
Edward VII.	1901–1910	George V.	1910–

GUARANTEE MARKS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

GUARANTEE MARKS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Austria-Hungary

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Gold

920 Thousandths, about 22 Carat ¼ Gr.	840 Thousandths, about 20 Carat ⅝ Grs.	750 Thousandths, or 18 Carat	580 Thousandths, about 13 Carat 3¾ Grs.

Silver

950 Thousandths	900 Thousandths	800 Thousandths	750 Thousandths

Gold	Silver
IMPORTED WARES	IMPORTED WARES

Belgium

Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

Gold

800 Thousandths
about
19 Carat ¾ Grs.

750 Thousandths
or
18 Carat

Silver

900 Thousandths

800 Thousandths

Czecho-Slovakia

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GOLD

920 Thousandths or 22 Carat ⅜ Grs.	840 Thousandths or 20 Carat ⅝ Grs.	750 Thousandths or 18 Carat	580 Thousandths or 13 Carat 3¾ Grs.	Very Small Wares 750 Thousandths or 18 Carat	Very Small Wares 580 Thousandths or 13 Carat 3¾ Grs.

SILVER

950 Thousandths	900 Thousandths	800 Thousandths	750 Thousandths	Very Small Wares 900 Thousandths	Very Small Wares 800 Thousandths	Very Small Wares 750 Thousandths

IMPORTED WARES

Gold	Silver

Denmark

GOLD AND SILVER

Three Towers with year mark under, Assay Master's initials. These are official marks, the Maker strikes his Registered Mark and the Standard. If, however, he does not strike the Standard, the Assay Master will do so in Carats for Gold, and Thousandths for Silver. The Makers may use their own Marks alone.

Standard struck by Assay Master

Standard struck by Maker

Egyptian Government Assay Office

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Gold

Assay Office at	23·5 Carat	21 Carat	18 Carat	15 Carat
Cairo				
Alexandria				
Beni Suef				
Tanta				

Silver

Assay Office at	·900 Silver	·800 Silver	·600 Silver
Cairo			
Alexandria			
Beni Suef			
Tanta			

The date letter is changed annually on April 1st.

France

MARKS AUTHORISED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO BE STRUCK UPON WARES OF GOLD, SILVER AND PLATINUM

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PLATINUM

STANDARD ·950

Work manufactured in France for sale in the Country	Work manufactured in France for Exportation	Imported Work

MARKS AUTHORISED TO BE STRUCK UPON WARES OF GOLD

GOLD

WORK MANUFACTURED IN FRANCE AND ASSAYED BY THE CUPEL

Standard ·920	Standard ·840	Standard ·750

FRANCE (*continued*)

Work Manufactured in France and Assayed by the Touch

Work Manufactured for Export

Standard ·920

Standard ·840

Standard ·750

Work Manufactured for Export and Assayed by the Touch

MARKS AUTHORISED TO BE STRUCK UPON WARES OF SILVER

SILVER

Work Manufactured in France and Assayed by the Cupel

Standard ·950

Standard ·800

FRANCE (*continued*)

Work Manufactured in France and Assayed by the Touch

Paris

Departments

Work Manufactured for Export

Standard ·950

Standard ·800

Work Manufactured for Export and Assayed by the Touch

Work Imported

Gold

Silver

Germany

Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

GOLD

Struck by the manufacturer, with the Standard in thousandths, together with his name or trade mark, by authority of the Government and penalties for misuse.

SILVER

Struck by the manufacturer, with the Standard in thousandths, together with his name or trade mark, by authority of the Government, and penalties for misuse.

Holland

MARKS FIXED BY THE LAWS OF 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1852, 7TH MAY, 1859, AND 15TH APRIL, 1886

Reproduced by permission of the Ministry of Finance

THE MARKS GUARANTEEING THE STANDARD OF GOLD ARTICLES

Gold Standard ·916	Gold Standard ·833	Gold Standard ·750	Gold Standard ·583	Small articles of the first three Standards with letter in front

THE MARKS GUARANTEEING THE STANDARD OF SILVER ARTICLES

Silver Standard ·934	Silver Standard ·833	Small Articles of both Standards

THE FOLLOWING MARKS DO NOT GUARANTEE THE STANDARD

Marks Indicating the Assay Office		Mark for Old and Antique Work Imported	Mark on Exportation
Gold	Silver	No Guarantee	Gold and Silver

DUTY MARKS, GOLD AND SILVER

Work made in Holland	Work imported into Holland Large work	Work imported into Holland Small work	Mark for parts attached Gold and Silver

Italy

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Gold

900 Thousandths
about
21 Carat $2\frac{3}{8}$ Grs.

750 Thousandths
or
18 Carat

500 Thousandths
or
12 Carat

Silver

950 Thousandths

900 Thousandths

800 Thousandths

Norway

Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

GOLD	SILVER
·585 Thousandths about 14 Carat	·830 Thousandths

Portugal

Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

Gold

916 Thousandths or 22 Carat	800 Thousandths about 19 Carat ¾ Grs.	916 Thousandths or 22 Carat	800 Thousandths about 19 Carat ¾ Grs.
By Assay	By Assay	By Touch	By Touch
A Dragon's Head		A Tiger's Head	

Silver

Large Work 916 Thousandths	Large Work 833 Thousandths	Small Work 916 Thousandths	Small Work 833 Thousandths
By Assay	By Assay	By Assay	By Assay
By Touch	By Touch	By Touch	By Touch

Assay Offices at Lisbon, Oporto and Braga; the Shields only differing at each office.

Russia

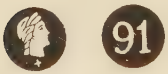
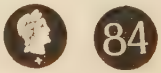
Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

Gold

96 Zolotnik about 23½ Carat	92 Zolotnik about 23 Carat	82 Zolotnik about 20½ Carat	72 Zolotnik about 18 Carat	56 Zolotnik about 14 Carat

Office and date mark in addition to the above

Silver

91 Zolotnik about 950 Thousandths	88 Zolotnik about 916 Thousandths	84 Zolotnik about 875 Thousandths
		

Office and date mark in addition to the above.

One Russian Zolotnik=658 grains.

Spain

The standard of articles bearing the Official Assayer's Mark is guaranteed

GOLD

916 Thousandths
or 22 Carat

750 Thousandths
or 18 Carat

SILVER

916 Thousandths
or 11 Dineros

750 Thousandths
or 9 Dineros

All articles weighing 1 oz. or more must be of this Standard

For articles not exceeding 1 oz. in weight

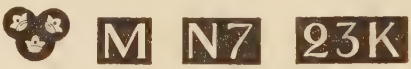
Sweden

Reproduced by permission of the Egyptian Government Assay Office

Gold

Articles of Gold should bear five marks, viz., the Hall Mark, the Mark of the Town, the Letter of the Year, the Carat in Figures, and the Mark of the Maker.

968 to 975 Thousandths * 23 Carat	840 to 847 Thousandths * 20 Carat	757 to 764 Thousandths * 18 Carat

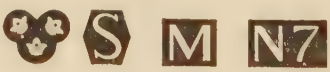


*A considerable Remedy is allowed for error.

Silver

The Hall Mark, the Mark of the Town, the Letter of the Year and the Mark of the Maker.

*820 to 828 Thousandths



*A considerable Remedy is allowed for error.

Switzerland

MARKS AUTHORISED BY THE SWISS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BE STRUCK UPON WARES OF GOLD, SILVER AND PLATINUM

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PLATINUM

Standard 950

Work manufactured in Switzerland — For large work

Work manufactured in Switzerland — For small work

Imported Work

GOLD

750 Thousandths or 18 Carat — For large work

750 Thousandths or 18 Carat — For small work

583 Thousandths or 14 Carat — For large work

583 Thousandths or 14 Carat — For small work

SILVER

875 Thousandths — For large work

875 Thousandths — For small work

800 Thousandths — For large work

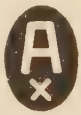
800 Thousandths — For small work

SWITZERLAND—*continued*

IMPORTED WORK

Gold		Silver	
583 Thousandths 14 Carat For large work	583 Thousandths 14 Carat For small work	800 Thousandths For large work	800 Thousandths For small work

Imported Gold Work below 14 Carat (·583) and not below 8 Carat (·333)



Assay Offices are established at Bienne, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Delémont, Fleurier, Genève, Granges (Soleure), Le Locle, Neuchâtel, Le Noirmont (Jura bernois), Porrentruy, St. Imier, Schaffhouse, Tramelan.
The small cross indicates at which office the Articles were stamped.

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